CHAPTER L A Dangerous Errand.

A city of hills with a fringe of we are going to a hotel with all the boases crowning the lower heights; publicity we can get. Here we are." balf-mountains rising bare in the background and becoming real moon lumbering coach, and were whirling tains as they stretched away in the over the rough pavement, through a distance to right and left; a confused confusing maze of streets, past long mass of buildings coming to the rows of dingy, ugly buildings, to the water's edge on the flat; a forest of hotel. masts, ships swinging in the stream, and the strenked, yellow, gray-green Henry, as we entered the hotel ofwater of the bay taking a cold light lice and saluted the clerk. from the actling our as it struggled through the wisps of fog that flut-inquired the eleric. tered above the secrated sky-line of the city-these were my first impressions of San Francisco.

Ter wind blew fresh and chill from the west with the damp and salt of clared myself quite ready to dine. the Pacific heavy upon it, as I breasted it from the forward deck of Heary, tossing the key on the buthe terry steamer, El Capitan. As I reau as we left. "Or no, on second drank in the air and was silent with thought," he continued, "it's just as admiration of the beautiful panoramathat was spread before me, my companion touched me on the arm.

"Come into my cabla," he said. "You'll be one or those fellows who can't come to San Francisco without catching his death of cold, and then lays it on to the climate instead of his own lack of common sense. Come, I can't spare you, now I've got you here at lest. I wouldn't less you for a million dellars."

"I'll come for half the money," I percented, as he took me by the arm and led me into the close cabin.

My companion I should explain, was Henry Wilton, the son of my further's coundin, who had the advantages of a few years of residence in Cathernia, and sported all the airsof a ploneer. We had been close frience through boyhood and youth, and it was on his offer of employment that I had come to the city by the Coddon Clater

"What a re-emblance?" I heard a wenning exclaims as we cutered the "They must be twins."

There, Heary," I whispered with a land. 'you see we are discovered." Though our relationship was not glow we had been east in the mold of some contains appendix. We were so needly althour form and feature as to possible all but our intimate acquality excess, and we had made the recentilized the occasion of many tricks in our boyhood days.

Hears had heard the exclamation as well as I. To my surprise, it appeared to bring him annoyance or apprehension rather than amusement,

"I had forgotten that it would make demans" he sald, more to himself than to me. I thought; and he glanced through the cabin as though he looked for some peril.

"We were used to flut long ago." I said, as we found a seat. "Is the business ready for me? You wrote that you thought it would be in hand by the time I got here."

"We can't talk about it here," be said in a low tone. "There is plenty of work to be done. It's not hard, but, as I wrote you, it needs a man of pluck and discretion. It's delicate business, you understand, and dangerous if you can't keep your head. But the danger won't be yours. I've

got that end of it." "Of course you're not trying to do anything against the law?" I said. "Oh, it has nothing to do with the law," he replied with an odd stolle.

"in fact, it's a little matter in which we are-well, you might say-outside I gave a gasp at this distressing auggestion, and Henry chuckled as he

saw the consternation written on my face. Then he rose and said: "Come, the boat is getting in."

"But I want to know-" I began. "Oh, bother your 'want-to-knows.

It's not against the law- just outside it, you understand. I'll tell you more or it when we get to my room. Give me that valise. Come along now." And as the boat entered the slip we found ourselves at the front of the pressing crowd that is always surging in and out of San Francisco by the gateway of the Market Street ferry.

As we pushed our way through the clamoring back-drivers and hotel-runners who blocked the entrance to the city. I was roused by a sudden thrill of the instinct of danger that warns one when he meets the eye of a snake, it was gone in an instant, but I had time to trace effect to cause. The warning came this time from the eyes of a man, a lithe, keen-faced man who flashed a look of triumphant malice on us as he disappeared in the waiting-room of the ferry-shed. But the keen face and the basilisk glance were burned into my mind in that moment as deeply as though I had known then what evil was behind them.

My companion swore offiy to him-

self. "What's the matte: I asked. "Don't look around," he said. "We are watched."

"The snake-eyed man?"

"Did you see him, too?" His manner was careless, but his tone was troubled. "I thought I had given him the sllp," he continued. "Well, there's roading," I replied. no help for it now."

"Are we to hunt for a hiding-place?" I asked doubtfally.

dime novel." Henry smiled grimly.

"Oh, no; not now. I was going to

take you direct to my room. Now

In another moment we were in a

"A room for the night," ordered

"Your brother will sleep with you?

Henry paid the hill, took the key,

and we were shown to our room. Af-

ter removing the travel-stains, I de-

well to leave the door tocked. There

might be some inquisitive callers.

And we betook ourselves to a hasty

meal that was not of a nature to

"Are you through "" asked my com-

nanion; as I shook my head over a

metancholy piece of pie, and faid down

my fork. "Well, take your bag. This

door-look pleasant and say nothing.

He led the way to the bar and then

through a back room or two, until

with a turn we were in a blind alley,

After a pause to observe the street

before we ventured forth, Henry

"I guess we're all right now. We

raise my opinion of San Francisco.

"We won't need this again," said

"Yes.

unlif:

"Maybe you don't recognize that this is serious business," he said.

"In Heaven's name, Henry, what's

not know too much, when Henry raised his hand with a warning to silence. I heard the sound of a cautious step outside. Then Henry sprang to the door, flung it open, and bolted down the passage. There was the gleam of a revolver in his hand. I hurried after him, but as I crossed back. the threshold he was coming softly back, with finger on his lips.

"I must see to the guards again. I can have them together by midnight." "Can I help?"

"No. Just wait here till I get back. Bolt the door, and let nobody in but me. It isn't likely that they will try to do anything before midnight. It they do-well, here's a revolver. Shoot through the door if anybody tries to break it down."

I stood in the door, revolver in hand, watched him down the hall, and listened to his footsteps as they deseended the stairs and at last faded away into the murmur of life that came up from the open street.

> CHAPTER II. A Cry for Help.

I hastily closed and locked the door. Then I rallied my spirits with something of resolution, and shamed myself with the reproach that I should fear to share any danger that Henry was ready to face. Wenried as I was with travel, I was too much excited for sleep. Reading was equally impossible. I scarcely glanced at the shelf of books that hung on the wall, and inened to a study of my autround-

The room was on the corner, as I have said, and I threw up the sash of excitedly. the west window and looked out over a tangle of old buildings, ramshackle lightly, as I told of what I had seen. sheds, and an alley that appeared to lead nowhere.

Some sound of a drunken quarrel must chance it, anyhow." So we drew my attention to the north win-

新聞書記記書記述 R. Here

"DON'T LOOK AROUND," HE SAID. "WE ARE WATCHED.".

came to Montgomery Street, and after There were shouts and curses, and a brief walk, turned into a gloomy one protesting, struggling inebriate doorway and mounted a worn pair of was hurled out from the front door stairs.

height. It stood on the corner of an pavement. alley, and the lower floor was intended for a store or saloon; but a renting agent's sign and a collection scarcely come to an end when a noise of old show-bills ornamenting the of creaking boards drew my eyes to dirty windows testified that it was the other window. The shutter sudvacant.

"This isn't just the place I'd choose for entertaining friends," said Heary, with a visible relief from his uneasiness, as we climbed the worn and it was Henry. dirty stair.

"Oh, that's all right," I said, mag nanimously accepting his apology.

"It doesn't have all the modern con veniences," admitted Henry as we stumbled up the second flight, "but it's suitable to the business we have in hand, and-"

"What's that?" I exclaimed, as a creaking, rasping sound came from the ball below.

into obscurity beneath.

"It must have been outside," said Henry, and opened the door of the Where's your hat?" last room on the right of the hall. The room was at the rear corner

of the building. There were two win- as much like me as could be imagdows, one looking to the west, the ined. other to the north and opening on the narrow alley.

Henry, half as an introduction, half [7] be in before twelve, or send a as an apology,

"It's luxury after six days of rail-

the most of it, then," he said, "for the stairs. He had evidently had cow." there may be trouble ahead." And he | some practice in getting about quiet-

dedged along in the shadow till we | dow, and I looked out into the alley. and left, with threats and foul lan-The house was three stories in guage, to collect himself from the ness,

This edifying incident, which was explained to me solely by sound, had denly flew around, and a human figure swung in at the open casing.

"S-h-h!" came the warning whisper, and I recognized my supposed robber.

"Don't speak out loud," he said in suppressed tones. "Wait till I fasten this shutter." "Shall I shut the window?" I asked,

thoroughly impressed by his manner. "No, you'll make too much noise," he said, stripping off his coat and vest. "Here, change clothes with me. Quick! It's a case of life and death. I must be out of here in two minutes. Do as I say, now, Don't ask ques-We stopped and listened, peering tions. I'll tell you about it in a day or two. No, just the coat and vest.

> The changes were completed, or rather his were, and he stood looking

There-give me that collar and tie.

"Don't stir from this room till I come back," he whispered. "You can "Not so had after you get in," said dress in anything of mine you like. messenger if I'm not coming. By-by."

word, and only an occasional creaking lt. Underneath was written: "Well, lie down there, and make board told me of his progress down

listened again at the crack of the ly. I could only wonder, as I closed and locked the door, whether it was the police or a private enemy that he was trying to avoid.

up?" I exclaimed with some temper. You're as full of mysteries as a I had small time to speculate on the possibilities, for outside the window I heard the single word, "Help!"

I rushed to the window and looked out. A band of half a dozen men was I was about to protest that I could struggling and pushing away from Montgomery Street into the darker end of the alley. They were nearly under the window.

"Give it to him," said a voice. In an instant there came a scream of agony. Then a light showed and a tall, broad-shouldered figure leaned

"These eren't the papers," it hissed. 'Curse you, you've got the wrong

There was a moment of confusion, and the light flashed on the man who had spoken and was gone. But the flash had shown me the face of a man I could never forget. It was a strong, cruel, wolfish face-the face of a man near sixty, with a fierce yellow-gray mustache and imperial-a face broad at the temples and tapering down into a firm, unylelding jaw, and marked then with all the lines of rage, hatred,

and chagrin at the failure of his plans. It took not a second for me to see and bear and know all this, for the vision came and was gone in the drooping of an eyelid. And then there echoed through the alley loud cries of Police! Murder! Help!" I was conscious that there was a man running through the hall and down the rickety states, making the building ring to the same cries.

It was thus with a feeling of surprise that I found myself in the street, and came to know that the cries for help had come from me, and that I was the man who had run through the hall and down the stairs shouting for the police. The street was empty.

Fortunately the policeman on the heat was at hand, and I haifed him

"Only rolling a drunk," he said "No, it's worse than that I insisted. There was murder done, and I'm afraid it's my friend."

He listened more attentively as I told him how Henry had left the house just before the cry for help had

"It's a nasty place," he continued. "it's lucky I've got a light." He brought up a dark lantern from his overesal pocket, and stood in the shelter of the building as he lighted it. "There's not many as carries 'ent,' he continued. "but they're mighty handy at times,"

We made our way to the point beneath the window, where the men had stood.

There was nothing to be seen-no sign of struggle, no shred of torn clothing, no drop of blood. Body, traces and all had disappeared.

> CHAPTER III. A Question in the Night.

I was stricken dumb at this end to the investigation, and half doubted Feur," the evidence of my eyes.

"Well," said the pollceman, with a sigh of relief, "there's nothing here. I suspected that his doubts of my sanfty were returning. "Here is where it was done," I as-

serted stoutly, pointing to the spot where I had seen the struggling group from the window. "There were surely five or six men in it." "It's hard to make sure of things

from above in this light," said the policeman, hinting once more his suspicion that I was confusing dreams with reality.

"There was no mistaking that job," I said. "See here, the alley leads farther back. Bring your light." A few paces farther the alloy turned

at a right angle to the north. We looked narrowly for a body, and then for traces that might give hint of the nassage of a party. "Nothing here," said the policeman,

as we came out on the other street, "Maybe they've carried him into one of these back-door dens, and maybe they whisked him into a back here, and are a mile or two away by now." "But we must follow them. He may be only wounded and can be rescued. And these men can be caught." was almost hysterical in my eager-

"Alsy, nisy, now," said the policeman. "Go back to your room, now, That's the safest place for you, and you can't do nothin' at all out here. I'll report the case to the head office, an' we'll send out the alarm to the force. Now, here's your door. Just rest alsy, and they'll let you know if

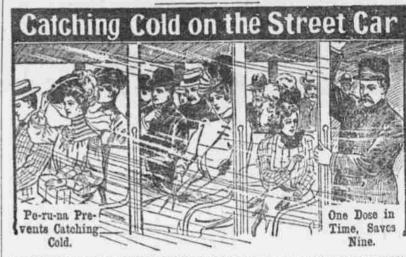
anything's found." And he passed on, leaving me dazed with dread and despair in the entrance of the fateful house.

Once more in the room to wait till morning should give me a chance to work, I looked about the dingy place with a heart sunk to the lowest depths. I was alone to the face of this mystery. I had not one friend in the city to whom r could appeal for sympathy, advice or money. Yet I should need all of these to follow this business to the end-to learn the fate of my consin, to rescue him, if alive and to avenge him, if dead.

Then, in the hope that I might find something among Henry's effects to give me a clue to the men who had attacked him, I went carefully through his clothes and papers. But I found that he did not leave memoranda of his business lying about. the only scrap that could have a possible bearing on it was a sheet of paper in the coat he had changed with me. It bore a rough map, showing a road branching thrice, with He was gone before I could say a crosses marked here and there upon

"Third road-cockneyed barn-iron (TO BE CONTINUED.)

NO ONE CAN ALWAYS AVOID



Many people persist in riding on the street cars, insufficiently protected by clothing.

They start out perhaps in the heat of the day and do not feel the need of

The rapid moving of the car cools the body unduly. When they board the car perhaps they are slightly perspiring. When the body is in this condition it is easily chilled. This is especially true when a person is sitting.

Inguining a street car ride in the middle of the day and ending it in the evening almost invariably requires extra wraps, but people do not observe these precautions, hence they eatch cold.

Only one very frequent in the Spring on this account, and as the Summer.

Colds are very frequent in the Spring on this account, and as the Summer advances, they do not decrease. During the Spring mentles, no one should think of riding on the car without being provided with a wrap.

A cold caught in the Spring is liable to last through the entire Summer. Great caution should be observed at this season against exposure to cold. During the first few pleasant days of Spring, the liability of catching cold is great.

No wonder so many people acquire inuscular rheumatism and catarrhal diseases during this season.

However, in state of the great the content of th However, in spite of the greatest precautions, colds will be caught.

At the appearance of the first symptom, Peruna should be taken according to directions on the bottle, and continued until every symptom disappears.

Do not put it off. Do not waste time by taking other remedies. Begin at once to take Peruna and continue taking it until you are positive that the cold has entirely disappeared. This may save you a long and perhaps serious illness

Rad Effects From Cold.

Mr. M. J. Deutsch, Secretary Building ing that would sometimes last for a Material Trades Council, 151 Washing-half hour.

ton St., Chicago, Ill., writes:
"I have found your medicine to be for the change you have made in our nausually efficacious in getting rid of little one's health. Before she began

The relief Peruna gives in catarrhal as she has ever been in her life." troubles alone is well worth the price per bottle. I have used the remedy for several years now."

Spells of Coughing.

Colorado, as follows:

I would whence and have snells of courle-

bad effects from cold, and more espe-cially in driving away all symptoms of thing in the way of cough, colds and entarch, with which I am frequently eroup, but now she has taken not quite troubled.

Pe-ru-na for Colds. Mr. James Morrison, 68 East 16th St., Paterson, N. J., writes:

"I have given Peruna a fair trial, and Mrs. C. E. Long, writes from Atwood, I find it to be just what you claim it to be. I cannot praise it too highly. "When I wrote you for advice my have used two bottles in my family for little three-year-old girl had a cough colds, and everything imaginable. I that had been troubling her for four can safely say that your medicine is the months. She took cold easily, and best I have ever used."

DISEASE

THE MEAN MAN.



"I believe," his wife angrily declared, "that If I were dead you would be married again inside of a

"Oh, no," the mean man replied, "you are mistaken. Try me and I'll prove it."

GIRL WAS DELIRIOUS

With Fearful Eczema-Pain, Heat, and Tingling Were Excruciating-Guticura Acted Like Magic.

"An eruption broke out on my laughter's chest. I took her to a doctor, and he pronounced it to be eczema of a very bad form. He treated her, but the disease spread to her back, and then the whole of her head was affected, and all her hair had to be cut off. The pain she suffered was excruclating, and with that and the heat and tingling her life was almost nubearable. Occasionally she was delirious and she did not have a properhour's sleep for many nights. The second doctor we tried afforded her just as little relief as the first. Then I purchased Cutleura Scap, Olntment, and Pills, and before the Ointment was three-quarters finished every trace of the disease was gone. It really seemed like magic. Mrs. T. W. Hyde, Brentwood, Essex, England, Mar. 8, 1907."

Gladstone's Thrift. Gladstone's liberality . . . was

very great, and was curiously accompanied by his love of small economies -his determination to have the proper discount taken off the price of his second-hand books, his horror of a wasted half sheet of note paper, which almost equaled his detestation of a wasted minute,-Recollections of Sir Algernon West.

Every Weman in this vicinity will be glad to know that local grocers now have in stock "OUR PIE," a preparation in these varieties for making Lemon, Checolate and Custard ples. Each 18-cent package makes two ples. He sure and order to-day, "Put up by D-Zerta Co., Rochester, N.K."

There is no interest worth consideration that does not run in the direction of duty.-Grimshaw,

Smokers appreciate the quality value of Lewis' Single Binder eigar. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

No honestly exerted force can be utterly lost .- Froude.



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